

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 2 comprising lines 11-25 of page 1 of the specification with the following:

-- FIG. 1 shows, schematically, a conventional optical disc reader 1 comprising a multitrack optical pick up 11 for reading data from five adjacent tracks of an optical disc 10 and outputting the data read from each track in five data streams. Each data stream is fed in to an integrated circuit 12 in which the data streams are combined and the combined data decoded. Specifically, each data stream is fed in to front end (FE) processing circuitry 13 where bit data is recovered and demodulated, and this data is then temporarily stored in a FIFO buffer 14. From the FIFO buffers, the data streams are combined using a multiplexer ~~15~~ and the combined data stored in a fast access, SDRAM memory 18 located off-chip. Decoding circuitry 17 located on the integrated circuit retrieves and decodes the combined data stored in the SDRAM memory 18 and feeds the decoded data to an output 20, for example, as a video or audio stream. The FE processing circuitry, FIFO buffers, multiplexer and decoder are all control by a microcontroller (μ C) 16 which in turn is controlled by an off-chip central processing unit (CPU) 19. --